

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

page 10 line 5 after "Figure" insert -3-

page 11 line 5 delete "L" and insert -D-

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (amended) A wood rot preventer adapted for use between two intersecting portions of lumber, namely an upper portion of lumber and a lower portion of lumber, said lower portion defining an upper edge and a lower edge, and said upper portions of lumber defining a predetermined load and said load being transmitted to said lower portions of lumber, and comprising;

a elongated protector adapted for attachment over the upper edge of a lower portion of lumber, the protector in turn comprising,

a web for overlying the upper edge of the lower portion of lumber;
side walls for extending partially downward from said web along either side of the lower portion of lumber;

an upper surface of said web defining a central median strip which is substantially planar and parallel to the upper edge of the lower portion of lumber, and,

two side strips running along opposite side edges of said central median strip, said side strips having upper surfaces angled downwardly away from the plane of said median strip, wherein said median strip defines a planar contact area for contact with an upper portion of lumber, and said two side strips define wedge shaped